

NEW ROAD OPPOSED

Fighting Richmond & Mahoning at Akron.

AN IMPORTANT LINE

It Will Connect Akron and Youngstown by an Air Line Through Manufacturing Districts.

The Richmond & Mahoning railway company filed a petition in the probate court at Akron Friday to appropriate land for a right of way, and condemnation proceedings have been instituted to compel property owners to cede the right of way desired. It will be a costly proceeding, as such litigation invariably entails great expense. The company will be compelled to condemn a right of way over a number of other lines, and it is understood that these roads will fight the right of the new line to cross their tracks. The new road is to cross the Pennsylvania company's tracks, that of the Erie, the Baltimore & Ohio, the Cleveland, Terminal & Valley, the Akron & New Castle, and these companies, together with a number of property owners in the city, are made parties defendant in the condemnation proceedings. With this array against it, the R. & M. will have no little trouble in getting into the city on the route proposed, but it is determined to force its way in and pay the cost.

It is stated that the Pennsylvania company, acting through the Valley division of the B. & O., is taking active measures to obstruct the new line. It has begun the erection of a lot of spur tracks in Akron across the proposed line of the new road, simply with a view of obstruction, it is said. As fast as the spurs are built, loaded cars are run over them so as to secure the establishment of the new tracks.

It is said, however, that the new road did not want to build its line along the route thus obstructed, but had run a lot of blind surveys simply to deceive its opponents.

The new road is a very important one and will connect the cities of Akron and Youngstown with an air line through the rich manufacturing districts of the Mahoning valley.

There is some speculation as to what company is back of the project. The statement is not credited that it is an independent company that is building the line. The opposition of the Pennsylvania company proves conclusively that it is not interested save as an obstructionist, yet it is apparent that some rich and powerful company is pushing the matter.

THE DEATH SENTENCE

Of Ruthven Will Not be Revoked.

NET OF EVIDENCE

Is Firmly Woven About the Condemned Man--Notes From the State Capital.

From a Staff Correspondent.

Columbus, March 23.—State Railway Commissioner J. C. Morris has appointed three members of his staff, Harry E. King, of Newton Falls, Trumbull county, has been appointed chief clerk to succeed E. A. Archer, C. J. Knight, of Columbus, chief inspector, and Edward P. Hanna, of Nelsonville, statistician. Messrs. Knight and Hanna were members of the office under Mr. Kayler. Archer made a hard fight to be retained and was backed strongly in his candidacy by Kayler. He has been drawing a salary from the state for many years.

The chances of Ed. Ruthven, murderer of Patrolman Shippe, of Cleveland, for clemency are considered slim. The state board of pardons will render a finding in the case a week hence and the belief is it will embody no recommendation for commutation of the death sentence. Ruthven is to be electrocuted April 12. He realizes his life hangs in the balance and is much dejected. Prosecutor Keeler, of Cuyahoga county, who argued against the condemned man at the hearing before the board, wove a strong net of circumstantial evidence around Ruthven, which it was plain had weight with the board.

Today Governor Nash will appoint Leander T. Lesh, of Pueblo county, a trustee of Dayton hospital, to succeed I. N. Walker, deceased.

GEORGE T. BLAKE.

SANDBAGGED AND ROBBED.

Terrible Plight of a Man Found in Box Car at Findlay.

Findlay, O., March 23.—Starved and semi-conscious, Thomas Russell was taken from a sealed box car last night on verge of death. He remembers getting off a passenger train at Peoria. Since then all is a blank. It is supposed he was sandbagged for his money and was thrown into the L. E. & W. car, where he was found. Russell was sent to his home in eastern Pennsylvania.

Huge Five Cents Lower.

Chicago, March 23.—Cattle, 1,500 head; hogs, 19,000, 5 cents lower; sheep, 4,000, steady.

DAMAGING EVIDENCE In Form of Dead Man's Watch Introduced in Murder Trial.

Salem, Mass., March 23.—A watch will probably convict John C. Best of the murder of George Bailey. His brother-in-law admitted on the stand that the prisoner had asked him to dig up a watch belonging to George Bailey, the murdered man. The brother-in-law refused, but the authorities being told where the watch was, found it as described by Best. They also found a sum of money. It is believed this circumstance will settle the fate of Best.

ENGLAND WILL LOSE PRESTIGE

Says One of London's Dailies—Lack of Guiding Principle.

London, March 23.—Saturday Review says: "Because of a fatal lack of guiding principle alternating between churlish resistance and timid concessions at Tien Tsin, we will lose prestige in the eyes of the world. England has been constantly defeated in all her Chinese disputes."



GENERAL FRENCH REPORTED KILLED BY THE BOERS.

AFTER MANY LONG YEARS

Mr. H. Cohen Succeeds In His Efforts

TO GIVE CANTON

A Modern, First Class Clothing Store--Opening of the Globe Next Thursday Evening.

On Thursday evening of next week at 7 p. m., the Globe Clothing Store, corner Walnut and Tuscarawas streets, will have its grand opening, which will mark a new epoch in the clothing trade history of Canton.

For years Canton has been regarded with longing eyes by the clothing trade. The local dealers have been accused of having by one method or another of almost monopolizing the trade. Mr. Cohen, who will open the Globe on Thursday, has been for ten years trying to secure an opening in this city. Experienced man that he was, he knew that he had to put in the best store of the city and be second to none. Until this year he was not certain of success on this line, but the opportunity came and he grasped it.

Mr. Cohen is one of the most pushing, active, up-to-date merchants of Ohio. He has had 35 years of experience and has conducted a clothing store in Salem for 21 years. He is regarded highly by customers and even by competitors. He has a reputation of running his own business in his own way and has never joined in deals to control trade. He will open the finest clothing store in Canton or Stark county and will be one of the fixtures of the city. A News-Democrat reporter saw Mr. Cohen at the new store on Saturday and in reply to the question as to whether he had anything to say to the public, Mr. Cohen said:

"Yes, it is true that we have been trying to get into Canton for ten years. I knew that we would have to come right or not at all in order to succeed. We intend to give Canton a first class, up-to-date clothing house, run on modern principles and will make our success upon merit."

"We want the people of Canton and Stark county to come to our grand opening on Thursday evening next, at 7 o'clock and inspect our store. After that we want them to give us their patronage for a trial. If they deal with us once, they will continue, if fair dealing, low prices and good service will do it."

Canton business circles have obtained a live member in having Mr. Cohen and people who know him have no doubt of the success of his undertaking.

Men Want More Wages.

Youngstown, March 23.—While the furnace operators of the valley are busy with an usual amount of orders ahead, the men are formulating their demands for an increase in wages. The wages were cut down ten per cent about two months ago and now the men will ask that the ten per cent be put back and an increase of from five to ten per cent given in addition. The executive committee is at work on the demands of the men and will report on Saturday.

Negro Did Not Hang.

Wheeling, W. Va., March 23.—George Carter, of Charleston, negro murderer, who was to hang at the state prison at Moundsville, today was granted a respite until April 26. An effort is being made to have his sentence commuted to life imprisonment.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS

Soon to be a Thing of the Past in Ohio.

NEW SCHOOL LAW

Being Put Into Force--Provides for Township High Schools and Transportation of Scholars.

Discussing educational matters, a prominent educator of Canton said to a News-Democrat reporter, Saturday morning:

"A few more years, and the old time country school will be a thing of the past. It will live only as a memory, or exist in out-of-the-way places and sparsely districts. The tendency in Ohio is to centralize district schools to township high schools. This has been made possible under a law passed by the last legislature, which is being taken advantage of in some sections."

"The first townships to take advantage of the new law were Green and Gustavus, in Trumbull county, up among the yankees. These descendants of the Puritan fathers are always foremost in educational matters, and to them more than any one else is due the passage of the law. Such a provision for centralizing schools has been in vogue in the New England states for some time, but Ohio is the pioneer in the movement in the west."

"The law not only provides for the merging of the schools into township high schools, but requires the township board of education to provide conveyances to carry the scholars to and from the school who live in remote parts of the district. In Trumbull county during the past winter the scholars have had a royal time. While the ground was bare of snow in Stark almost the entire winter, up there they had six weeks of the best kind of sleighing, and large bob-sleds were used to haul the scholars to and from school. The rigs were piled full of rollicking boys and girls."

"The combining of the districts allows the use of the entire township school funds for the one school, and a graded school is established equal to that of the larger towns. The best of talent can be secured for teachers, and that, too, without increasing the rate of taxation. The old school houses have been sold at auction in those townships and the people are perfectly satisfied with the new order of things."

"The experiment is being watched by adjoining townships, and indeed, by educators all over the state. The result is that a number of townships are taking steps preliminary to doing away with the district school. It is a reform that will come slowly, owing to the prejudices of some of the elders. They oppose this innovation just as they did the use of carbon oil lamps in the churches, etc. But the younger generations rule now, and they do not hesitate to trample upon the customs of their fathers."

"The law requires that when such a change is desired, the matter must be submitted to the qualified voters of the township. If the majority vote favorably to the new system, it is the duty of the township board to see that it is put into effect as soon as practicable. The law by erecting a suitable house and securing a corps of teachers. The board of education consists of five members elected at large throughout the township, which has exclusive control over the school."

"There is much sentiment clinging around the old school houses and there are those that claim that in these modest temples of learning the foundations are laid for the best and most practical education. We hear much of the great men who get their education in log school houses or at the district schools remote from the towns. Of course, the law is such to support this theory, and there is one fact that even the best educators have to admit, and that is that at the teachers' examinations scholars from country schools come in and pass creditably when graduates from the Canton and other high schools fail miserably. Just why this is cannot be figured out, yet it is a fact."

"These country scholars may not know any civil government, Latin or astronomy, but they have an abundance of practical knowledge of arithmetic, grammar, physiology and the branches usually taught."

"Stark county citizens have as yet not taken advantage of this law, but no doubt it will not be long until some townships will make the change."

REMAIN SINGLE

Is What Pennsylvania Bachelors May Do--Queer Matrimonial Bill.

News-Democrat Leased Wire Service.

Harrisburg, Pa., March 23.—In the house of representatives of the legislature this morning, Mr. Roth introduced a bill intended to encourage marriage in this state. Bachelors over 40 years old, who marry, must pay a marriage license fee of \$100. The money is to be used for maintaining free homes for old ladies who have not had an opportunity to be married. Bachelors who go out of the state to be married must pay the \$100 anyhow. The state is to be divided into three districts, for taxation purposes.

Sold His Vote.

News-Democrat Leased Wire Service.

Frankfort, Ind., March 23.—Richard Beard was convicted today of selling his vote and was disfranchised for ten years. Clinton county is said to have one thousand purchasable votes and war has been opened upon them. There are fifty persons under arrest and it is believed that more will be taken.

LOUIS VITAK'S Music and Musical Merchandise Supply House.



Violins, with Bows, \$3.50 and upward,
Mandolins, \$2.50 and upward.
Guitars, \$3.50 and upward.
Banjos, \$4.50 and upward.
Cornets, \$9.00 and upward.
Other Band Instruments in Proportion.
Clarinets, 13 keys, 2 rings, \$12.75.
Edison Phonographs, \$10.00, \$20.00 and \$30.00, with outfit.

Edison Records, 50c each or \$5 per doz.

Large Stock of Records to select from--New Ones coming Every Week.

COMPLETE LINE

—OF—

MUSIC,

Popular, Standard & Sacred.

All Popular Music now sold at Half Price. It will pay you to deal with us.

LOUIS VITAK, 210 NORTH MARKET STREET, CANTON, OHIO.

LOOKING BACKWARD

Old Public Square of Canton

SIXTY YEARS AGO

"Landmark No. 33" Described By John Danner For News-Democrat Readers.

The following cut illustrates the north public square in Canton, as it appeared in 1840. That was a notable year; it was the year that General William Henry Harrison was elected president by the Whig party. The campaign

was known above all that ever preceded it; "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" was the watch word, coon skins and hard cider the emblems, and log cabins the place of meeting. That same year General Harrison spoke in Massillon, and on his way eastward in a stage coach, he stopped for one meal in the Eagle hotel, and well do I remember the greetings he received in the short time he was in our midst. Gen. Harrison was inaugurated March 4, 1841, and died April 4, the same year, being president but one month; yet it took us three or four days to hear the news of his death. There were no telegraphs or telephones then; the post man on horse back or the stage coach were our most rapid means of communication at that time.

The old court house in the front of our picture on the left hand side was a brick structure as represented, built in 1816, and was about 45 feet square;



in the tower or belfry was the old bell that now is in the central engine house tower; it was this bell that was sounded at 9 o'clock in the morning for the children to go to school, at noon for dinner, and again at 9 o'clock in the evening to close the stores and prepare to retire.

In the one story frame with the gable towards the square next north of the court house, at that time was the dry goods store of Jacob Schaefer, an older brother of the late Louis Schaefer. At that time Louis was clerking for his brother; that was before he entered into the study of law. The two story frame next north of Schaefer's store was occupied by Martin Wikidal as a residence, and the north half as a residence; at that time I was in Mr. Wikidal's store and boarded with the family four years. Joseph Shorb had built said building, and occupied the same as a storeroom previous to 1836, while the upper story was used as a Thespian or theatrical room. The two story brick building just north of the Wikidal building was owned by M. & J. Laird the south half of which was used by them as a store, and the north half as a residence. Impertus Martin, yet living in Canton, was at that time clerking in Laird's store. Matthew Laird, the senior partner, was a bachelor and very hard of hearing. He afterwards sold all of his interest to his brother John, who kept store a short time longer and then went into the foundry and machine business. He eventually built up quite a large business in that line. He lived with us until a few years ago, and was nearly 80 years old when he died.

market hours, that has been made in recent years.

Our venerable friend, William Lemmon, who is yet living, though greatly advanced in years, occupied the south west room upstairs for his tailor shop, longer than any other person. At the beginning, his brother-in-law, Mr. Agnew, was with him, and after he left, Mr. Lemmon kept up the business in the same place.

The first telegraph office opened in Canton was in 1845, in the southeast room upstairs of this building; the late George R. Saxton was the first operator; and the first telegraph service we had in Canton, was only a loop from the main line in Massillon. Our friends in Massillon had both telegraph and express service in their town before we had them in Canton. I lived in Massillon at that time and well remember seeing Isaac Harter, Sr., Martin Wikidal, V. R. Kimball and other leading citizens and business men at that time in Canton, coming over to Massillon or sending their clerks for express packages and to attend to their telegraph business. After a few years Canton got a direct communication, and also an express office, viz: the Adams, and the late G. W. Huntington acted as the first agent for said company in Canton. At first Mr. Huntington acted in the double capacity of ticket agent for the P. F. W. and C. R. R. and also as the agent for the express company. Finally his whole time was taken up as the agent for the express company.

The market house above referred to, was not the first market house in Canton. The first market house was built about 1815

and stood on the south side of the market square. It was a one story building about 30 by 50 feet, one much the same shape as our present one, corner of Seventh and Court streets, but had no doors or enclosure between the brick pillars upon which the roof was supported. It was all open and divided into stalls for market purposes only. The building was soon torn down after the one on the North Market square was erected.

The two story brick building seen on the north east corner of the public square, where the Polwell block now stands, was built by William Fogle, grandfather of Henry C. Fogle, and afterwards occupied as a hardware store by Lewis Fogle, the father of H. C. Fogle, and after him by Patton and Pepple. After the property was bought by Martin Wikidal he occupied all but the store room as his residence until his death a few years ago. The store room was used for a number of years by the Dueble Bros. in the jewelry business, and also by the late Joseph A. Meyer for the same kind of business. After they left it, the changes were so many that I will not stop to enumerate them.

The market house which stood in the center of the square was built in 1836. The late Henry Kintz was the contractor and builder; it was a frame building and is well represented by our cut, about 40 by 60 feet in size. The two rooms on the south end up stairs, were mostly occupied, but the two intermediate rooms were seldom in use. The hall at the north was known as the town hall; it was only about 40 feet square, low ceilings, and yet in those times it served the purpose of lyceums, conventions, churches and Sunday schools; both the Trinity Lutheran and the First Baptist held their first church services and Sabbath schools in this little upstairs room.

The lower story was all open for market purposes, as indicated by the picture, and even at that time a very good market was kept up three mornings in a week, viz: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. This was continued until quite recently and it is a question among many whether it was the best to make the change in the time of

JOHN DANNER.

STRIKE IS IMMINENT

Operators Flatly Refuse to Accede to the DEMANDS OF MINERS

Joint Conference at Massillon Without Effect--Committee to Meet in Canton.

Special to News-Democrat. Massillon, March 23.—At the joint meeting of the miners and operators of the fifth sub-district of Ohio, Thursday afternoon, no concessions were made on either side and the dispute is at a standstill.

The bone of contention seems to be the eight hour day demanded by the hoisting engineers. The operators refuse to recognize the engineers as belonging to the union and the miners insist that the engineers are duly qualified to have a voice in the conference.

The operators have flatly refused to yield to the demands of the union and a strike is now feared.

An adjourned meeting of the scale committee of the fifth sub-district of Ohio will meet in Canton on next Thursday to fix the rate for machine mining.

DARING ESCAPE.

News-Democrat Leased Wire Service.

Delaware, O., March 23.—John Kensley, who is in the county jail here, on a charge of burglary, awaiting the action of the courts, made a daring escape last night. He pried a stone loose in the ceiling of his cell and crawled through the aperture to the roof. He let himself down from there by a rope of clothing. Bloodhounds are now after him, but as yet he has not been apprehended.

GRAND STAND PLAY.

Is the Opposition Being Made by the Cubans.

News-Democrat Leased Wire Service. Havana, March 22.—Your correspondent is able to state that the constitutional convention long since determined to grant the demands made by the United States under the Platt amendment and that all show of opposition now being made is a grand stand play.